

INSTALLATION OF DENTAL IMPLANT" to -- METHOD FOR GROWING MUSCLE IN A
HUMAN HEART --

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please add the following new claims:

236. A method of growing a new portion of a pre-existing heart comprising the steps of placing a growth factor in a body of a human patient and growing new muscle in said heart.
237. The method of claim 236, further comprising growing a new artery in said heart.
238. The method of claim 237, further comprising repairing a dead portion of said heart.
239. The method of claim 237, further comprising repairing a damaged portion of said heart.
240. The method of claim 237, wherein said growth factor comprises genetic material selected from the group consisting of a portion of a gene, a gene, a gene product, and an extracellular matrix.
241. The method of claim 240, wherein said genetic material comprises a gene.
242. The method of claim 241, wherein said gene comprises VEGF.
243. The method of claim 237, wherein said growth factor comprises a member selected from the group consisting of cells, cellular products, and derivatives of cellular products.
244. The method of claim 243, wherein said growth factor comprises a cell
245. The method of claim 244, wherein said cell is multifactorial and non-specific.

246. The method of claim 245, wherein said cell comprises a stem cell.
247. The method of claim 236, wherein said growth factor is placed in said patient by injection.
248. The method of claim 247, wherein said injection is intravenous.
249. The method of claim 247, wherein said injection is intraluminal.
250. The method of claim 247, wherein said injection is intramuscular.
251. The method of claim 236, wherein said growth factor is placed in said patient by a carrier.
252. The method of claim 251, wherein said carrier comprises an angioplasty balloon.
253. The method of claim 236, wherein said growth factor comprises a gene and a cell.

REMARKS

At the outset, Applicant's attorneys wish to express appreciation for the courtesies extended by Examiner Elizabeth Kemmerer during the May 22, 2003 interview. The inventor, Dr. James P. Elia; Assignee's representative, Dr. Jerry W. Bains; and Applicant's attorneys, Charles N. Lovell and Gerald K. White, attended the interview. During the interview, Applicants stated that materials possibly bearing upon the patentability of the elected invention would be submitted in the near future. Such additional materials are submitted herewith for the Examiner's review during consideration on the merits of the invention.

The title has been changed to be more clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

Initially, Applicant wishes to address a point raised by the Examiner during the above-mentioned interview regarding the meaning of the term "growth factor", which appears in the specification and claims. The Examiner took the position that the ordinary and customary